

# Holy Cross Lutheran Church

## School and Early Learning Center

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November 19, 2023

*"The Joyful Reunion"*

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## WELCOME TO HOLY CROSS!

**OUR SAVIOR WELCOMES YOU AND SO DO WE!** Whether you are a first time visitor or returning guest, we are delighted to share our worship with you! Please come back and worship with us again!

**PARENTS OF LITTLE ONES** We love to have children in worship! However, parents who find a need to take their children out of the service are welcome to use the narthex/lobby area while you quiet your little one. The infant care room is also available for nursing mothers. You'll be able to hear the service from the speaker system in the narthex and in the infant care room. A changing table is in the men's and women's bathrooms. If needed, please ask an usher for assistance.

**REGISTRATION CARDS** are in the hymnal racks. Guests may use the registration cards to let us know how we may further assist you. We encourage all members and guests to fill out a registration card and place it in the offering plate. Thank you!

**A HEARING LOOP** is installed in our sanctuary for your convenience. If your hearing aid has a t-switch, you'll need to activate it when you're in the sanctuary, in order to benefit from the hearing loop.

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES** Holy Cross offers a full Christian elementary school (grades PreK3 – 8), Kids Crossing Early Learning Center (6 weeks – 5 years), Sunday School and children's youth activities.

**PRAYER CONCERNS?** Contact Sherri Bartels, [sbbartels.sb@gmail.com](mailto:sbbartels.sb@gmail.com). Our prayer chain is a large group of Holy Cross members who join you in calling upon God with your prayer concerns. Galatians 6:2 says "Carry each other's burdens and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

**USHERS** are on duty during church services. Please speak with them if you need assistance.

**LIVE STREAM WORSHIP** If you or a loved one are unable to attend worship, our 8:30 am service is live streamed on the church website.

**PHONE-IN WORSHIP** Sundays at 8:30 a.m. (Call any time after 8:20 a.m.; dial 1 (978) 990-5164 followed by access code 6279900#)

**ON DEMAND WORSHIP** View or listen to any of our past worship services by visiting our website and click the tab labeled Live Stream/Sermons and click sermons.

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE** Sunday, 8:30 am 10:30 am and Monday, 6:30 pm.

**TRANSPORTATION FUND** If you have no other way to church, taxi rides to and from church are available. Please speak with the Pastor or call the church office at 249-3101.

**THE LORD'S SUPPER** is offered on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month and the following Mondays. We believe the Lord's Supper is an expression of our unity of faith in our Savior as well as our unity in all scriptural teachings. Since the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod profess full unity in biblical teaching, members of these church bodies are welcome to commune with us. If you are a member of a different Christian church, we ask that you wait to commune until you have closely examined what we teach and are convinced that we are a church that preaches the true Word of God, and that you are in agreement with our teachings. Please speak with a pastor if you are a guest and would like to commune.

**MISSION STATEMENT** The mission of Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School is to bring the Gospel of Christ to our community through the Means of Grace, reaching out to the lost, and nurturing our fellow believers. This we do through worship, education, service and fellowship that God's kingdom may grow.

# ***"The Joyful Reunion"***

***November 19, 2023***

***Saints Triumphant***

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*The Common Service – Page 15*

## **Tolling of the Bell**

M: On All Saints Day, we commemorate those who have departed in the faith and we especially commemorate our members and those funerals officiated by our pastors this past year.

## **Invocation and Opening Prayer**

M: In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

C: Father, we praise you for the great host of saints who finished their lives in faith and now rest from their labors. We remember especially our loved ones, whom you redeemed by the blood of Jesus and received as your children through faith. We thank you for giving them to us as companions on our earthly pilgrimage. We thank you for taking them home to heaven. Comfort all who are sad and strengthen us with the promise of heaven. Amen.

**Hymn** #551 vs 1....."For All the Saints"

For all the saints who from their labors rest,  
All who their faith before the world confessed,  
Your name, O Jesus, be forever blest.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

All: Merciful Father and Lord of Life, with whom live the souls of those who depart in the faith, we thank you for the blessings of body and soul that you granted our departed brothers and sisters. Lord Jesus, we praise you for your victory over death which you share with the saints in heaven and believers here on earth. We look forward with great expectation to the day of resurrection when we will be united again with our departed brothers and sisters who departed in the faith:

Doris Seim (December 4)

Dennis Natvig (April 3)

Wanda Julseth (April 10)

Gena Erickson (May 20)

**Hymn** #551 vs 2....."For All the Saints"

You were their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
You, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight  
And in the darkness drear their one true light.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

All: Almighty God, by the death of your Son Jesus Christ you destroyed death, by Jesus rest in the tomb you sanctified the graves of your saints, and by his glorious resurrection you brought life and immortality to light, we thank you for the blessings of body and soul that you granted our departed brothers and sisters.

Henry Moen (June 10)

June Nichols (August 6)

Alice Knable (Unknown)

Blanche Armson (October 2)

**Hymn** #551 vs 3....."For All the Saints"

Oh, may your soldiers, faithful, true, and bold  
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old  
And win with them the victor's crown of gold.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Responsive Verses for All Saints Day** (From Revelation Chapter 7)

M: These are they, which came out of the great tribulation

**C: and have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**

M: Therefore are they before the throne of God,

**C: and serve him day and night in his temple.**

M: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous,

**C: for praise is becoming for the upright.**

**Choir**....."Children of the Heavenly Father"  
Diane Baxter, Flute

**Psalm of the Day**.....Psalm 118

M: The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.

**C: The Lord's right hand is lifted high; the Lord's right hand has done mighty things!**

M: I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done.

**C: I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you have become my salvation.**

M: The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

**C: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**Confirmation Examination**

**Hymn #551** (vs 4, 5, 7, 8)....."For All the Saints"

4 Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine!  
We feebly struggle; they in glory shine,  
Yet all are one within your grand design.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

5 And when the fight is fierce, the warfare long,  
Steals on the ear the distant triumph-song,  
And hearts are brave again and arms are strong.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

7 But then there breaks a yet more glorious day:  
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;  
The King of glory passes on his way.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

8 From earth's wide bounds to ocean's farthest coast  
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Sermon**.....Pastor Mark Bartels....."The Joyful Reunion"

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you do not grieve in the same way as the others, who have no hope. 14 Indeed, if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, then in the same way we also believe that God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep through Jesus.

15 In fact, we tell you this by the word of the Lord: We who are alive and left until the coming of the Lord will certainly not go on ahead of those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore, encourage one another with these words.

**Hymn #550** (vs 1)....."Behold, a Host, Arrayed in White"

1 Behold a host, arrayed in white,  
Like thousand snow-clad mountains bright;  
With palms they stand. Who is this band  
Before the throne of light?  
These are the saints of glorious fame,  
Who from the great affliction came  
And in the flood Of Jesus' blood  
Are cleansed from guilt and blame.  
Now gathered in the holy place,  
Their voices they in worship raise.  
Their anthems swell Where God does dwell  
Mid angels' songs of praise.

## Offering

### Special Prayers

#### Confession of Sins

C: O Almighty God, I a poor miserable sinner, confess unto you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am truly sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray you, of your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.



M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

#### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

#### Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

#### The Distribution & Hymn 311 (vs 1-6)....."Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness"

1 Soul, adorn yourself with gladness;  
Leave behind all gloom and sadness.  
Come into the daylight's splendor;  
There with joy your praises render  
Unto him whose grace unbounded  
Has this wondrous supper founded.  
Though he reigns above most holy,  
Deigns to dwell with you most lowly.

2 Hasten as a bride to meet him,  
And with loving rev'rence greet him,  
For with words of life immortal  
He is knocking at your portal.  
Open wide the gates before him,  
Saying, as you there adore him:  
Grant, Lord, that I now receive you,  
That I nevermore will leave you.

3 He who craves a precious treasure  
Neither cost nor pain will measure,  
But the priceless gifts of heaven  
God to us has freely given.  
Though the wealth of earth were proffered,  
Naught would buy the gifts here offered:  
Christ's true body, for you riven,  
And his blood, for you once given.

4 Now I kneel before you lowly,  
Filled with joy most deep and holy,  
As with trembling awe and wonder  
On your mighty work I ponder,  
How by mystery surrounded,  
Depths that no one ever sounded.  
None may dare to pierce unbidden  
Secrets that with you are hidden.

5 Human reason, though it ponders,  
Cannot fathom these great wonders,  
That Christ's body must be boundless  
Since the souls it feeds are countless,  
And that he his blood is giving  
With the wine we are receiving.  
These great mysteries unsounded  
Are by God alone expounded.

6 Lord, by love and mercy driven,  
You have left your throne in heaven  
On the cross for me to languish  
And to die in bitter anguish,  
To forgo all joy and gladness  
And to shed your blood in sadness.  
By this blood redeemed and living,  
Lord, I praise you with thanksgiving.

### **Prayer for the Fellowship of Saints**

C: O God, today you have brought us near to the souls of justified men and women made perfect: Grant us during our earthly pilgrimage to abide in their fellowship, and in our heavenly home to become partakers of their joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## **Benediction**

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

## **Closing Hymn** #550....."Behold, a Host, Arrayed in White"

3 O blessed saints, now take your rest;  
A thousand times you will be blessed  
For keeping faith Firm unto death  
And scorning worldly trust.  
For now you live at home with God;  
You toiled and sowed the Word abroad.  
Rejoice and bring Your fruits and sing  
Before the throne of God.  
The myriad angels raise the song;  
O saints, sing with that happy throng!  
Lift up one voice; Let heav'n rejoice  
In our Redeemer's song.

**Announcements** If you attended online services at Holy Cross, please send an email to [frontoffice@holycrossmadison.org](mailto:frontoffice@holycrossmadison.org), and in the subject line write "Attended" and after that the number of people who watched from your home.

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## **Holy Cross News & Notes**

November 19, 2023

### **Calendar for the Week – November 20th - November 26th**

#### **Monday**

- Worship - 6:30 pm
- Bible Information Class- 7:30 pm

#### **Tuesday**

- Senior Ministry - 9:15am

#### **Wednesday**

- School Chapel - 8:10 am
- Bible Study - 10:00 am
- Thanksgiving Eve Worship - 6:30pm
- Thanksgiving Pie Social - after service above

#### **Sunday**

- Worship - 8:30 and 10:30 am (September to May)
- Bible Class- 9:45 am (may include 7-12 graders)

**ALTAR FLOWERS** given this week by the Seim family in memory of Jane Seim.

**HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK** Jackie Sharpee, Norm Marozick, Cassidy Olson, and Pat Stiegman were hospitalized this week. Please pray for them and our homebound and for those in nursing homes.

#### **SUNDAY SCHOOL NOTES FOR PARENTS**

1. Please be aware that there is no Sunday School on Sun., November 26 (the Sunday after Thanksgiving); grades 7-12 are welcome to sit in with the adult Bible class.
2. The Sunday School Christmas Service will take place Sunday, December 17, at 10:30 a.m. We are already beginning to learn our parts. December 3 and 10 we will be practicing our service in the sanctuary between services in place of regular Sunday School class. There will be Sunday School on the 17th to give us one last opportunity to prepare. Please make sure your student(s) is (are) in attendance for those three Sundays (12/3, 12/10 and 12/17). It is important to have as many students there as possible as we prepare for and celebrate the birth of our Savior. Thank you!
3. The Sunday School Christmas Service will be livestreamed for friends and relatives who cannot attend in person.

#### **THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP/PIE SOCIAL**

Thanksgiving Eve Worship will be held at 6:30 on Wednesday, November 22nd. The Thanksgiving Eve Pie Social will be held immediately following the 6:30pm service on November 22nd. Join us in fellowship while eating delicious pies. Please bring a pie to share if you're able, but it's not required. Just drop them off at the kitchen window on the way into worship service. Toppings and beverages will be provided. See you then!

#### **COOKIE WALK**

Saturday, December 9th! Time to start baking! Last year we raised around \$3,000 for the School Library! This year proceeds will be split between the Church and School. Last year we ran out of overflow cookies within our 1st hour. We would like for you to help donate MORE cookies, bars, candies, jams & one those Norwegian goodies! Please consider donating to this amazing cause to help support Holy Cross Church & School! Any questions please contact Jodi Hougan at [jspeth11@gmail.com](mailto:jspeth11@gmail.com). We will also have our annual Scholastic Book Fair going at the same time!

#### **ELC JOB OR VOLUNTEER ANNOUNCEMENT**

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'" Isaiah 6:8

If you, or someone you know, has a talent for working with children, is kind, patient, and positive, we need you!

We have multiple openings, both part and full time, paid (\$15/hr) or volunteer. Please contact Katie Krug at [kkrug@holycrossmadison.org](mailto:kkrug@holycrossmadison.org) if you are interested or would like more information.

Volunteer Positions:

Snuggling babies, reading books, playing with children, helping students during group lessons.

Paid Positions:

Infant room: 7am-12pm

1 year old room: 3:30pm-5:30pm

2 year old room: 7:30pm-4:30pm

Floater (goes to multiple rooms): 8:00am-5:00pm

After School Care: 3:00pm-5:30pm

## **SERMON VIDEO LINKS**

Holy Cross will begin sharing videos of our most recent sermons with you. Our hope in doing this is twofold. First of all, we hope that, as you watch these videos yourself as a part of your own regular devotional life, the Holy Spirit would strengthen your faith during the week. Secondly, we ask that you share these videos with your friends, relatives, and neighbors as you see fit. You could forward this email on to those you think would be interested, or simply copy and paste the links to your social media feed for all your online friends. For example, if there's a sermon that addresses a particular topic, such as grief, you can pass it on to someone you know is grieving. Our Savior told His disciples to "preach the gospel to all creation" (Mk 16:15), and this is just one more we can fulfill His great commission. And we have the promise from God that, as the apostle Paul says, "Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ" (Ro 10:17). The Holy Spirit will work on human hearts wherever His Word is proclaimed.

11/12/23 - Waiting for the Last Judgment - Pastor Piet Van Kampen

<https://vimeo.com/881414793?share=copy#t=1204>

## **GIVING OPPORTUNITY - SCHOOL WISHLIST TREES**

When donating to our school, some people prefer to give toward an item for a specific classroom, as opposed to just giving to a general fund in which they have no idea toward what their donation goes. There is currently a way to make that happen!

Our Holy Cross Lutheran School teaching staff has compiled a wish list for their classrooms, and the teachers' aides have put together a display of those items in the cafeteria. There are "Wishlist Trees" with leaves in fall colors designated for each classroom, as well as a list of items posted next to them that each classroom teacher is "wishing" for. There are three trees: one for kindergarten through second grade, one for third through fifth grades, and one for sixth through eighth grades.

If you are interested in making a donation, please pick a leaf with a dollar amount written on it from the tree and then donate that amount toward the item of your choosing. There will be someone at a table in the cafeteria after each church service to take care of your donation.

On behalf of the Holy Cross teachers, thank you so much for your donation!

## **THE FAMILY ALTAR**

How about a 4 week spiritual-bonding-time with you and your children at home? Advent is almost here. Advent is the 4 weeks of the church year where we get ready to celebrate Jesus coming as a baby and into our hearts. Advent is a great time to have short daily devotions for the whole family... maybe after supper or at bedtime.

If your child attends our school, they'll be bringing an advent devotion booklet home from school.

If your child doesn't attend our school, devotion books are available at the welcome center.

If you know a family with children, take one from the welcome center and share it with them.

Help make Advent a special time of spiritual preparation for your family! Begin with the first devotion on the first day of advent: Sunday, December 3!